

**An act to establish the seat of government of the United States ... 1789. September the 22d. New York, printed by Thomas Greenleaf. [1789].**

An ACT to establish the Seat of Government of the United States.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a District of Territory, not exceeding ten miles square, to be located as hereafter is directed, at some convenient place on the banks of the river Susquehannah, in the State of Pennsylvania, be, and the same is hereby accepted, as the permanent Seat of the Government of the United States, and that, until the necessary buildings shall be erected therein, the Seat of Government shall continue at the City of New-York.

And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be authorised to appoint three Commissioners, to examine and report to him, the most eligible situation, on the banks of the said river, for the permanent Seat of the Government of the United States; and the said Commissioners are hereby authorised, under the direction of the President, to locate a district, not exceeding ten miles square, on the banks of the said river; and under the direction of the President, to purchase such quantity of land within the same as may be necessary, and to accept grants of lands for the use of the United States, and to erect thereon, within four years, suitable buildings for the accommodation of the Congress, and of the Officers of the United States: Provided always, That no powers vested by this act, in the President of the United States, be carried into effect, until the States of Maryland and Pennsylvania, make such provision, not including any public expense to the said States, as he may deem satisfactory for effecting the navigation of the said river.

And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury, together with the said Commissioners, be authorised to borrow for the purposes aforesaid, a sum not exceeding One Hundred Thousand Dollars, to be repaid within twenty years, with interest not exceeding the rate of five per cent. per annum.

And be it further enacted, That so much of the product of the duties on Impost and Tonnage, as may be deemed sufficient by the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury, be hereby pledged and appropriated for the repayment and redemption of the principal and interest of the sum to be borrowed as aforesaid.

1789. September the 22d.

[ NEW-YORK, printed by THOMAS GREENLEAF. ]

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